

THE SUBURBAN CITIZEN.

VOL. 11.

WASHINGTON, D. C., SATURDAY, APRIL 14, 1900.

NO. 12.

WHO PAYS THE BILLS.

An Explanation of the Trouble in the Bladensburg District.

THE PERIODICAL OUTBURST EXPLAINED.

The Windjammers and Shouters Receive a Severe Scoring--A Long Pending Question Aired to the Disadvantage of the Wind Splitters--The Plain Duty of the County Officials Pointed Out.

A friend of ours living in Bladensburg writes the editor a letter in which he says, among other things, "A reform wave is just now passing over this section of the country. I have noticed that these waves seem to appear about every six or seven years, and what I would like to know is, what causes them to appear with such regularity. If you can throw any light on the subject you will confer a very great favor on at least one of your readers out this way."

In answer to the above it is only necessary to say that they are caused by the salaried agents of reformatory societies, so-called, who must make or at least feel that they must make a demonstration that is calculated to make people who pay them think they are earning their money.

These societies go by different names, such as the Social Purify Club, the Law and Order League, the Anti-Saloon League, etc., and it sometimes happens an agitator is hired by two or more of them and if he did not raise a periodical disturbance his pay would soon stop. Of course the agitator cannot be in more than one place at one and the same time, otherwise he would have the entire State of Maryland in turmoil all the year round.

Since the agitator is now spending a short season in the vicinity of Bladensburg it follows as a matter of course, that there must be an outburst of reform or his employers would not think he was giving them a good run for their money.

Since the particular agitator in question is on the pay roll of the Anti-Saloon League, it follows as a matter of course that the present attack is aimed at the saloon keepers in the Bladensburg district. There are eleven of them in the district, and since the present movement is for the announced purpose of stopping "all Sunday selling and drinking, or, failing in that, to have their licenses cancelled," it might be well to consider what effect such a move would have on Prince George's county.

The records at the court house in Marlboro show that these eleven men are taxed annually as follows:

Government tax	\$ 275.00
State tax	1985.50
Corporation tax	15.00
Internal Revenue tax	12,000.00
Property tax	895.75
Total	\$15,171.85

Of which amount the State receives \$2,896.65, while the balance, \$12,275, goes to the support of the general government.

When it is remembered that according to the laws of Maryland every dollar collected from liquor licenses must be spent on roads and bridges it will be seen just where the shoe would pinch in the event of the fanatics being successful in driving the business out of the Bladensburg district.

It has not been so very long ago that one of these same agitators, who poses as a leading Republican in his section, and a man who is supposed to have considerable property and some influence, nearly ran his legs off to get \$1,000 of the license money to build a useless bridge. As soon as the money was paid in Marlboro, and before they had time to get it in the safe this same enemy of the saloon and the saloon keeper was there trying to get his hands on it. And such lying as he did would put the devil to shame, but he got it. He does not want a saloon in the State, or at least gets up on all occasions and shouts against them, but he is eager and anxious to get his hands on the saloon keeper's money, to be used in improving the roads and bridges in and about his

property. Oh! Consistency! Truly thou art a jewel.

We have been furnished the names of fifteen of the leading howlers who were prominent at the meeting recently held in Hyattsville, and the books show that the total amount of tax money paid by them foots up a trifle less than \$180.

Just think of it.

Eleven saloon keepers pay \$15,171.85

Fifteen agitators pay 130.00

No sensible man can help but think that if we had to depend on the agitators, howlers and kickers to build school houses, roads, bridges, etc., we would certainly be in a bad way. We would be compelled to flounder through muddy and sandy roads, swim streams and turn our children loose in the streets for their schooling.

We are not posing as the champion of the saloon, for we have never been asked to do so. We are not standing up and saying that every saloon in the Bladensburg district is a paradise, or that they are all properly conducted. On the contrary we know that there are one or two places in the very heart of Bladensburg that are a disgrace to civilization, and no well regulated community, we might say no community laying claims to being carried on in a half-way decent manner would allow such dens to exist for twenty-four hours. But that is the fault of the local authorities and has nothing whatever to do with this new scheme that condemns every saloon in the district.

Now and then a man is caught and imprisoned for stealing, but it would be manifestly unjust to accuse all men of being thieves. And yet according to the logic of the professional howlers, if one man stole anything they would favor the arrest and incarceration of the entire male population as common thieves.

It is quite certain, in our opinion, that no living honest man believes that any living sensible man believes in any such doctrine.

We want to ask the fanatics a few questions and we hope they will have no trouble in answering them. The fact of the matter is most every one of them will answer itself, but where the answer is not easily found a five-year-old child will lend all the assistance necessary.

In the first place we want to ask why it is that the people of Hyattsville and Riverdale make an instantaneous demand for better roads and bridges as soon as the saloonists pay their license money to the State, and thus attempt to get in on the ground floor when many of them profess to be bitter enemies of the saloon and would openly spurn a saloonkeeper's money?

Why is it the people of Branchville, Beltsville, Berwyn and other towns do the same thing?

For years past practically every dollar of this license money has been spent outside of Bladensburg, when it frequently happened that their roads and bridges were in urgent need of repair, so much so that the saloonkeepers of Bladensburg were compelled to raise money by subscription to fix the roads. Do the fanatics look upon that as just and equitable?

What public exigency called for the presence in Hyattsville of a fanatical agitator from Berwyn?

At the present time the pike from Bladensburg to the District line is in bad shape. It needs repairing. It is used daily by hundreds of people of the county besides other hundreds from the District of Columbia. It would take about four hundred dollars to make a good road of it. Why does not the Anti-Saloon League start a

subscription and raise sufficient funds to repair that stretch of roadway? Did anybody ever hear of them doing any single act like that for the public good?

Is it not a fact that they will spend ten dollars for a hall sooner than spend ten cents for any public improvement?

We want to ask the fanatics and other windjammers to show us a parallel to the case of Geo. W. Coldenstroth, until recently a saloonkeeper in Bladensburg, who gave seventy-five dollars toward the improvement of Bladensburg road and then spent another seventy-five dollars worth of time in superintending the work.

Did any windjammer subscribe seventy-five dollars, or even so much as seventy-five cents toward the work?

About six hundred dollars were raised for that improvement, but not even so much as five cents was given by the men who rail and shout against the saloon.

At this present time Geo. W. Coldenstroth is one of the largest property owners in the Bladensburg district, but the windjammers want to ruin his property and drive his tenants away and convert the whole neighborhood into a community of speak-easies that make liars and sneaks of men.

Although he does not live in the district, yet he can always be counted on to do his share in the matter of public improvements. He is always willing to hold his end up for the public good.

Did the windjammers do anything toward graveling the river road from Bladensburg to the District line? Is it not a fact that J. C. Callan, a saloonist of Tuxedo, was a leader in that movement and gave thirty-three dollars out of his own pocket toward the work?

Before it was improved it was almost impassible, being so sandy in some places and so muddy in others, but it is now in splendid shape. Not one dollar's worth of credit however is due the windjammers for that handsome improvement that is enjoyed by numerous people of the county every day.

One of the windjammers of Highland says he has written several letters to the sheriff of the county regarding alleged pool selling at the Highland Club House, but up to the present time has received no response. In reply, it is only necessary to say that if the sheriff of the county paid attention to every communication from fanatics and cranks whose letter-writing propensities are immense, it would consume all his time and divert his attention from legitimate duties.

The hired agent of the Anti-Saloon League recently threatened to have a man in Hyattsville arrested for mailing a board on his fence on Sunday to prevent a vicious dog from running at large and biting some innocent passer-by, because, as he claimed, the man was desecrating the Sabbath, and then he made a savage attack on one of the constables for not spending his time on Sundays watching the saloonkeepers of Bladensburg, to see if they did not disobey the law. In one case he wanted to have a man arrested for desecrating the Sabbath and another arrested for not desecrating the Sabbath. That is what we call consistency with a vengeance.

The walking delegate for the Anti-Saloon League can give us no satisfactory reason why he hounded Clarence Winemiller, manager of the Chevy Chase Trestle Club, and finally succeeded in landing him in the work house at Jessup's Cut for eight months, but refused to interfere with the Chevy Chase Inn that was running openly Sundays and every other day. The proprietor of the Chevy Chase Inn was not molested because he was backed by the Chevy Chase Land Company and the Capitol Traction Company, two powerful organizations of which the League was afraid. They broke Winemiller up because he was a poor helpless fellow, and that is the class they like to hop onto.

If anyone in the Bladensburg district is indicted it will be interesting to see if a jury can be found to convict in the face of all this hypocrisy and deceit.

We recommend the above remarks to the taxpayers of Prince George's County.

The Berwind-White Company, the largest soft coal operators in Pennsylvania, announced at Philadelphia that its miners are to receive a general average advance in wages of twenty per cent. Involving the addition of more than \$670,000 a year increase to the pay rolls. The increase will affect about 12,000 men.

THE NEWS.

Judge Johnson's departure for Nome left the Alaska Territory without a judge or judicial office.

The United States Government awarded to the Oceanic Steamship Company a 10-year contract at \$2 a mile for carrying the Australian and English closed mails across the Pacific.

Two Italian strikers were shot by deputy sheriffs in New York during a riot.

Charges were made at the meeting of the Chicago Presbytery that the General Assembly was dominated by a system of bossism and one-man power worse than any political machine.

The rumors looking to the combination of the Carnegie-Frick interests and the Cramp shipbuilding concern has been denied by the latter company.

Owing to the strike of the miners, the condition of the coal trade has assumed alarming proportions in Pittsburgh, Pa.

A complete steel house was shipped from Philadelphia to Prince Yoshito, at Tokio, and 81 locomotives and tenders were shipped to Russia.

Captain Louis Ostheim, First United States Artillery, was found dead in his room in a Chicago hotel, with a bullet-hole in his temple.

R. H. Pitzer, a banker, in charge of the Livermore Bank, at Oakland, Cal., committed suicide, his trusteeship of an estate valued at \$600,000 being under investigation.

Poster Grubb and C. H. Sheaffer were killed, and Samuel K. Clouser fatally injured, while working under cars in the railroad yards at Harrisburg, Pa.

The case of the Baltimore coffee merchants against the New York imports was begun again before the Supreme Court in New York.

Chaplain Charles D. Pierce, in his report, defends the canten at Manila, and says it replaces a number of disreputable gin shanties.

An unsuccessful attempt was made to rob the First National Bank of Charlestown, W. Va. The robbers were discovered and driven off.

Vast sections of farming land in Texas is inundated, and it is reported that a number of lives have been lost.

Rev. Dr. William F. Junkin, of Montclair, N. J., a brother-in-law of Stonewall Jackson, died from pneumonia.

A fire in Greenpoint, N. Y., destroyed several factories and threw fifteen hundred men out of employment.

William Mohole was arrested, at Paterson, N. J., while manufacturing counterfeit silver money.

Charges were made that Brigadier General Funston put two Filipinos to death without trial.

Joseph Zimmer, of Paterson, N. J., killed George Marlon in a hotel at Wallington.

The plans for the new convention hall at Kansas City have been completed.

John M. Egan was elected president of the Central Railroad of Georgia.

The losses to crops by the floods in the Texas lowlands will be enormous. The powerhouse at Austin, in which eight workmen were drowned, was undermined by the flood and machinery valued at \$300,000 destroyed.

From National Democratic headquarters comes a report that preparations are being made to boom ex-Governor Robert E. Pattison, of Pennsylvania, for vice president.

Webster Davis, former assistant secretary of the Interior, made a speech at the British-British and military methods.

The large department store of Joseph Horne & Co., in Pittsburgh, was destroyed by fire. The loss will be nearly two million dollars.

There was a very large audience at Wal-lack's, where the play of "Sapho" was again put on, with Miss Nethersole in the title role.

A four-year-old son of Russel Nicklas, in Chambersburg, Pa., was killed by being run over.

Emma Spinler, a loveick girl of nineteen years, committed suicide near Paterson, New Jersey.

Judge Brown, of the United States District Court in New York, says his decision discharging the prisoners in the Carter conspiracy case was in accordance with precedent, the prosecution having followed a wrong method of procedure.

Three building associations in Atlanta, with branches in other States, applied for receivers in Atlanta on account of excessive taxation.

A trawler on the Durham and Charlotte, near Gulf, went through, wrecking an accommodation train.

The Louisville Courier-Journal says \$1,000 was paid in advance to the man who shot Goebel.

Harry Hamberger, convicted of murder in Detroit, Mich., attempted to commit suicide. A strike is threatened by the telegraph operators on the Southern Railway system.

Kling and Lewis Goodbody, colored, were executed in Baxley, Ga., for murder.

F. O. Dickensheets, a Kansas City newspaper man, committed suicide at Atlanta.

Dr. Hathaway, president of the American Sabbath Union, announced to the Newark Conference that President McKinley had declared the United States building at the Paris Exposition would be closed on Sunday.

FOR PORTO RICO.

PASSAGE OF THE BILL BY A VOTE OF 161 TO 153.

GREAT INTEREST IN BILL.

There Was a Majority of Only Eight for the Bill When Passed for Its Final Passage--Republicans Speak and Vote Against It--Democrats Almost Solid Against It.

Washington, (Special).—The long and bitter struggle over the Porto Rican tariff bill ended, when the House by a vote of 161 to 153 concurred in all the Senate amendments.

As the bill originally passed the House it was a simple bill, imposing 15 per cent. of the Dingley rates on goods going into Porto Rico from the United States and coming from Porto Rico into the United States. As amended by the Senate and agreed to by the House all restrictions on goods coming into the United States from Porto Rico are eliminated, and certain foodstuffs and other articles which heretofore have gone into Porto Rico free by executive order are excluded from the operation of the 15 per cent. duty imposed on goods entering the island from the United States.

A complete scheme of civil government for the island is also attached to the measure. Upon the final vote nine Republicans voted against the bill—Messrs. Heatwole, of Minnesota; Crumpacker, of Indiana; Lane, of Iowa; Littlefield, of Maine; McCall, of Massachusetts; H. C. Smith, of Michigan; Warner, of Illinois; Fletcher, of Maine, and Lorimer, of Illinois. Two Democrats—Messrs. Davy and Meyer, of Louisiana—were paired with Democrats in favor of the bill, and one Democrat—Mr. Stibley, of Pennsylvania—voted for it outright. Mr. Devries, the other Democrat who voted for the original bill, voted against concurrence. Mr. Stallings (Dem.) of Alabama, was the only member on either side absent and unpaired.

The vote came at 5 o'clock after a very interesting and at times exciting debate of five hours, which covered not only the bill, but the special order under which the House acted. One of the most dramatic features of the day was the reading by Mr. Richardson, the minority leader, of the original opinion of Charles E. Mason, the legal adviser of the War Department, in favor of the view that the Constitution extended over Porto Rico ex proprio vigore. Mr. Dooliver, of Iowa, in reply, termed Mr. Mason a clerk who tried to overrule the great lawyer at the head of the War Department. Messrs. H. C. Smith, of Michigan; Warner, of Illinois; Crumpacker, of Indiana; McCall, of Massachusetts, and Lorimer, of Illinois, made speeches against the motion to concur.

ROBERTS' REPORT.

Methuen's Defeat of the Boers—Burgers Fired on White Flag.

London, (By Cable).—The War Office has received the following dispatch from Lord Roberts:

"Bloemfontein.—Methuen reports that the party of Boers defeated April 15 made a good resistance for four hours, and only gave in when our troops, with fixed bayonets, were within 15 yards of them.

"Seven of the enemy were killed, 11 were wounded and 51 were made prisoners. Besides Lieutenants Boyle and Williams, Sergeant Patrick Campbell was killed and 10 of our men were wounded. Williams was deliberately killed after the white flag had been held up. The perpetrator of the crime was at once shot.

"Methuen speaks in high terms of the intelligent manner in which the Imperial Yeomanry and the Kimberley Mounted Corps behaved.

"Buller reports that the enemy attacked his right flank while he was engaged in changing his position, but our artillery silenced their guns and they did not press the attack. Our losses were four men killed and eight men wounded. There is no further news yet from Wepener."

A FATAL FIRE.

Mrs. Peyton H. Ruble and a Little Boy Perish in the Flames.

Parkersburg, W. Va., (Special).—The residence of Peyton H. Ruble, at Daisy post-office, seven miles south of here, was destroyed by fire. The Ruble residence was a two-story frame building and was occupied by Mr. and Mrs. Ruble, a little boy named Davis and Mr. Ruble's mother, aged 80 years.

The dead are Mrs. Ruble, wife of Peyton Ruble, and Gordon Davis, aged 9 years, son of Albert Davis, of this city. Mr. Ruble was seriously injured while trying to rescue his wife and will probably die.

Minor Left \$30,000.

Shamokin, Pa., (Special).—Stephen Monaghan, a veteran of the Civil War, since which time he has lived here in an old shop where he also cobbed shoes, died, and when his papers were examined he was found to have left an estate of over \$30,000, principally in government bonds.

He lived in a peevish fashion and made show investments in stocks. He was a bachelor and is survived by a sister, Mrs. Margaret Holland, of Frackville.

SOUTHERN DEVELOPMENT.

The first three months of 1900 present in most striking manner the phases of modern cotton mill building in the South. Two points about this movement are notable. One is that men who have made a pre-eminent success of the business are most active in the enlargement of the industry, either in extension of their own mills or in the construction of new enterprises. The other is that the interest in cotton mill building has taken a deep root in States, such as Mississippi and Texas, which have heretofore not been classed as cotton mill localities. The exhibit of progress is so remarkable that the Manufacturers' Record presents this week a summary of new undertakings since January 1, and a list of mills wholly or partially contracted for, both in buildings and machinery. The total number of spindles in the 64 new mills is 430,000, while in the 31 mills reported since the first of the year as being enlarged the number of additional spindles is 164,963, a total of 594,963 spindles, representing about \$15,000,000 of new capital.

Other interesting facts connected with Southern industry brought out in this week's Manufacturers' Record relate to the prospects for American steel during the next year or two. An eminent authority quoted estimates that the demand for steel rails for repairs alone for 1900 will reach fully 1,000,000 tons, and that the quantity required for 1901 will probably exceed these figures. The demand at home has had a material effect upon the export market, as several of the larger manufacturers of rails have not been as energetic in securing foreign orders, having their hands full with American orders. The companies competing with European steel makers, however, have met with continued success, the demand for their products having steadily widened, so that the exports of steel rails this year may be expected to be much larger than those of last year.

An interesting side-light upon the iron and coal situation is given in the special Berlin correspondence of the Manufacturers' Record. Though local coal conditions in Germany have become somewhat better, this correspondent finds that many establishments face the alternative of closing down or buying English coal at prices averaging above \$6 a ton. He adds:

"The situation now prevailing in the German coal trade certainly offers rare opportunity to American exporters, provided they can spare considerable quantities for this market. At any rate, it would be worth the trouble of our producers to strain a point now to enter the German market so as to establish permanent relations with consumers here, for no future event can be more certain than that the inexhaustible coal resources of the United States are going to be drawn upon by Germany, as well as other Continental countries, from now on to an extent that nobody has ever dreamed of heretofore. The cheapness of coal in the United States is a permanent factor as compared with European conditions, and it may be regarded as certain that prices here will never again reach the low level prevailing before the present great boom set in. Consumption has been tremendously enlarged here in a way that excludes the idea that coal can ever again reach the old level of prices. As I see the situation then, there is an immense future for the American coal industry in the European market, and the development of our coal exports will soon surpass the world in the same manner as our exports of iron and iron manufactures have already done."

There has been, this correspondent says, general advances in the prices of iron, and he assumes that present prices in Germany will be maintained for at least the whole of next year. He adds:

"The recent advances of price apply to next year's contracts, which are now being signed. Some departments of the trade, indeed, have refused to bid themselves beyond the first six months of 1901, and this decision is undoubtedly dictated by the expectation that the American market will begin by that time to exert considerable pressure upon European prices. Indeed, all signs point to a continuance of the present remarkable security of pig iron into next year. One difficulty in the near future is that the furnaces have been running under pressure for so long a time that many will have to be blown out soon for repairs. Already there has been a slight slowing up of production through this cause, and it will probably be still more felt in the near future. In roll of iron and steel mills are already being made extensions for next year, but the rolling mills are not disposed to bid themselves for so long a period. This is a further striking indication of the strength of the situation here as seen by the producers themselves. In view of the conditions just described, it is very generally believed that the present boom in the iron trade here has all the promise of long life in it. As far as can be judged now, it seems improbable that any serious relapse can occur in less than two years. Consumption in all lines is tremendous out in a way that the most sanguine spirits never dared to expect, and nobody can point to a single fact in the whole situation that is at all a warning of a present movement now or within the near future."

Carfew Law in Elkins.

Elkins, W. Va., (Special).—Mayor Irons has issued a proclamation enforcing the "curfew" ordinance, by which all children under sixteen years of age will be arrested if found on the streets after eight o'clock P. M. A case attended by their parents.